

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6192

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 1095

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, LT

SUBJECT: ASST SECY SCHAUFEL'S TALKS WITH GOL

REF: STATE 236780

1. FINALLY ABLE PERSUADE MASHOLOGU, PERMSEC FONAFF, TO GIVE ME ON INFORMAL BASIS SOME OF THE POINTS GOL MAY WISH DISCUSS WITH ASST SECY SCHAUFEL. HE STILL HAS NO CABINET APPROVED LIST BUT HOPES HE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN APPROVAL AT CABINET MEETING TOMORROW. HE SAID POSSIBLY EIGHT QUESTIONS MIGHT BE RAISED, BUT DECLINED SHARE ALL WITH ME AT THIS JUNCTURE. HE SAID WHOLE MATTER OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL, OF COURSE, BE PRIMARY BUT THEN WENT ON TO GIVE ME LIST OF THREE ECONOMIC MATTERS THAT MIGHT BE RAISED. MY FEELING IS THAT MASHOLOGU HAS DRAWN UP LIST OF TOPICS ON BASIS HIS WASHINGTON EXPERIENCE. THESE MAY OR MAY NOT REFLECT PRIORITY INTERESTS OF CABINET FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ASST SECY. NEVERTHELESS RECOMMEND DEPT PREPARE BRIEFING MATERIAL ON THESE SUBJECTS FOR USE IN CASE THEY APPEAR ON FINAL AGENDA OF TOPICS TO BE TAKEN UP.

2. ECONOMIC MATTERS CITED BY MASHOLOGU THIS MORNING ARE:

A. SECY KISSINGER'S LUSAKA OFFER OF GREATER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. COMMENT: THERE IS A STRONG BELIEF HERE THAT THE BLS STATES WILL BE MAJOR RECIPIENTS AND GOL IS LOOKING FOR ITS SHARE.

B. REPLENISHMENT OF IDA. COMMENT: WE NEED AN UP-DATE OF STATUS OF U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO BOTH IDA AND UNDP.

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C. SUPPORT FOR THABA BOSIU PROJECT. MASHOLOGU SAID HE HAD UNDERSTOOD WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGTON THAT AID FAVORED U.S. TAKE-OVER OF ENTIRE RESIDUAL PROJECT. WHETHER OR NOT THIS WAS TRUE, HE SAID GOL IN ANY CASE WANTS THABA BOSIU PROJECT REPLICATED.

3. ALTHOUGH MASHOLOGU DID NOT MENTION PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR MASERU, HE MAY HAVE IT UNDER HIS HAT. COMMENT: IN THIS CONNECTION COUNTRY TEAM BELIEVES DEPT/AID SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT TO POSITIVE CONSIDERATION THIS PROJECT. QUITE APART FROM QUESTION OF DUBIOUS ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY, THERE IS POSSIBLE SALE OF AVIONICS INVOLVED AND COUNTRY TEAM BELIEVES THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT ALTERNATIVE TO JAN SMUTS COULD BECOME REFUGEE RELIEF AND EVACUATION ADJUNCT OF SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTIONS IN COMING YEARS IF SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA WERE TO DETERIORATE TO POINT WHERE REFUGEES SOUGHT SAFE HAVEN HERE AND TRAVEL OR TRANSPORT THROUGH REPUBLIC TO JAN SMUTS BECAME UNFEASIBLE.
STOKES

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